

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

June 21, 2012



City of Eugene
777 Pearl Street, Room 105
Eugene, Oregon 97401-2793
(541) 682-5010
(541) 682-5414 (FAX)
www.eugene-or.gov

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AROUND THE CITY

Welcome to Track Town, USA!

After years of planning and innumerable hours of work by City of Eugene employees and thousands of community members, the 2012 US Olympic Team Trials - Track & Field are finally about to begin. The Track Town Festival has a "soft opening" today, June 21, in Beaverton to provide a place for fans to watch the hammer throw competition taking place on the Nike campus in Beaverton. The Festival opens its "doors" at 11 a.m., Friday, June 22, and the competition begins at 1 p.m. Mayor Kitty Piercy and members of the City Council and other community partners will officially open the Festival at 12:30 p.m., on the Track Town plaza stage with a public drawing for eight pairs of Olympic Trials' tickets, one for each day of competition. (City employees are not eligible for the drawing.)



The Track Town Festival is free and open to all community members, and features live video of the competition on jumbo screens, free entertainment, and fun, interactive youth and family activities.

The City of Eugene is again sharing a booth in the Festival with other major Track Town partners, Oregon Track Club (OTC) and Travel Lane County (TLC). The booth, titled "Welcome to Track Town, USA," is located just inside the main public entrance to the Festival at 15th and Agate. In the Track Town booth, TLC will provide full concierge service for visitors, OTC will have hats, memberships and other runners' information, and City staff will have information on Eugene's outstanding arts and outdoors amenities. A number of daily activities and contests will be highlighted.

Bring friends and family, and come enjoy the Track Town Festival. While there, stop by the Welcome to Track Town booth and say hello to colleagues. For more information, contact Public Service Officer Karina Fon at 541-682-8390.

Downtown Is Cooking: New Restaurants Bring Tastiness to City Center

This summer, downtown Eugene will experience an influx of new businesses specializing in great food and tasty beverages. In fact, so many new businesses are choosing to locate downtown that it's safe to say the area is experiencing a trend - downtown Eugene is becoming a new hotspot for food-lovers.

- **Belly** recently relocated its rustic European farmhouse soul food to a larger space at 30 East Broadway. On 5th Avenue, Belly's taqueria specializes in casual, flavorful Mexican cuisine.
- By mid-July, **Off the Waffle** will open a second location in the US Bank Building next to Bagel Sphere, 840 Willamette. Off The Waffle's second location will continue to offer the famous Liege-style waffles and creative menu items.

- **Noisette Pastry Kitchen**, a European and classic American style bakery will open later this summer in ground floor space in Broadway Place at 200 West Broadway.
- **The Barn Light**, a sophisticated, comfortable coffeehouse and bar, will also be opening later this summer in the atrium area of the freshly renovated Broadway Commerce Centre building on the southwest corner of Broadway and Willamette.
- **Mom's Pies**, the McKenzie River Highway tradition, recently re-opened the family-owned business in a new location on 11th and Willamette. Open for lunch, the restaurant sells pies whole or by the slice.



All of these businesses (except for Mom's Pie's) benefited from City loan programs. The Downtown Revitalization Loan Program (DRLP) is a flexible financing program designed to encourage investments within the Downtown Urban Renewal District that contribute to the economic vibrancy and density goals for downtown. The Business Development Fund (BDF) provides loans to new and existing Eugene businesses that are creating jobs in the community.

For more information on the loan programs, please contact Amanda Nobel Flannery at 541-682-5535 or amanda.nobel@ci.eugene.or.us.

TrackTown12 Highlights Lunch on the Square



Photo by: TrackTown Photo

Check out the track and field action in downtown Eugene. Once again, Eugene is the host city for the U.S. Olympic Trials. Catch the highlights from TrackTown12 on two 50" TVs daily, Monday – Friday, June 25 – 29, from noon to 1:30 at Kesey Square (Willamette and Broadway).

For even more fun on the square, join a game of Corn Toss. Games and bean bags are provided. New to the Corn Toss game? No problem, come on down and learn how to play with friends, co-workers, and get a bite of lunch. Food carts and restaurants are open.

For more information, please contact Libby Tower at 541-682-8380.

City Offers Rain Garden Workshop to Encourage Sustainable Stormwater Solutions

As part of an education program associated with the [Water Wise Landscape Demonstration Garden](#) at Alton Baker Park, the City is offering a [Rain Garden Workshop and Design Studio](#). The workshop will be held on Saturday, June 30, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the [Amazon Community Center](#). Registration is required.



The workshop will cover deciding where to install a rain garden and how large to make it, preparing soil and choosing native plants, among other topics. Experts will also offer individualized design assistance, with the goal of having attendees leave the workshop with a completed rain garden design for their yards.

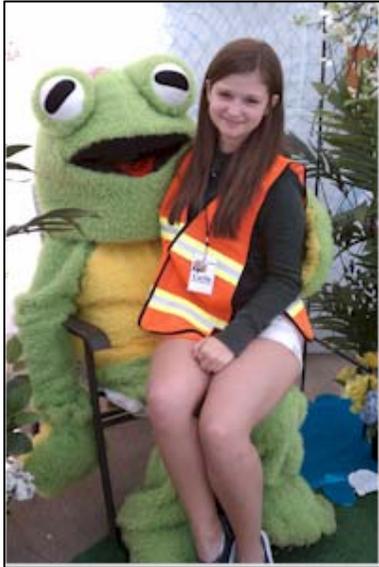
Rain gardens offer a low-tech, inexpensive and beautiful approach to managing stormwater. When a landscape is covered in natural vegetation, most rainfall soaks into the ground. As roofs, driveways, sidewalks and streets are added, much of the rainfall can't soak into the ground anymore, resulting in runoff that can carry dirt, oil and chemicals into streams and groundwater. By capturing rainwater, holding it and then slowly releasing it into the soil, rain gardens slow and clean the rush of a large storm – quickly, neatly and naturally.

The Water Wise Garden showcases strategies to reduce water use and capture and treat stormwater, while creating a beautiful landscape. It features a water-saving landscape design, native, edible, and low water-use plants, an efficient sprinkler system, a rain garden, a bioswale and a 3,000-gallon rainwater cistern. The garden was the result of a remarkable collaboration of several community partners, including the City's Parks and Open Space, Stormwater Education and Green Building Programs, Eugene Water & Electric Board, Nearby Nature, LandCurrent Landscape Architecture and Schirmer Satre Group. Many others in the community donated expertise, labor, and materials to make the garden a reality. Future workshop topics include rainwater harvesting, designing a water-wise landscape and choosing native and low-water-use plants.

To learn more about the workshop or the Water Wise Garden, please contact Jenna Garmon at 541-682-5541 or jenna.r.garmon@ci.eugene.or.us, visit www.eugene-or.gov/greenbuilding, or sign up to receive green building news and event announcements on the City's website under "Stay Connected."

SPLASH Stormwater Lessons Get a Good Grade in Local Classrooms

More than 3,700 local schoolchildren gained greater awareness of the value of clean water in the past year, according to information recently compiled by Eugene's Stormwater Pollution Learn and Share (SPLASH) program. SPLASH is a K-12 educational stormwater curriculum designed for youngsters in the 4J and Bethel school districts.



SPLASH program mascot Lily the Frog attended Public Works Day.

Lessons encourage students to explore local water resources and increase their awareness of water quality. Because stormwater plays a large role in Eugene's water quality, the program's goal is to change students' habits and attitudes.

"Through education we hope to build a community of responsible water users," says program coordinator Kathy Eva.

The curriculum also helps Eugene meet federal and state stormwater permit requirements designed to keep stormwater pollutants out of local rivers and streams by increasing community awareness about activities and behaviors that generate stormwater pollution.

The SPLASH program has been taught in local schools since 1995. As part of the ongoing partnership, the school districts provide counts to the City at the end of each school year. Many of the lessons and activities, including those in a popular section on salmon and the ecosystem, were developed to fulfill the requirements of state benchmarks. Lesson plans, handouts and other resources are available at www.happyrivers.org.

For more information, contact Kathy Eva at 541-682-2739 or Kathy.a.eva@ci.eugene.or.us.